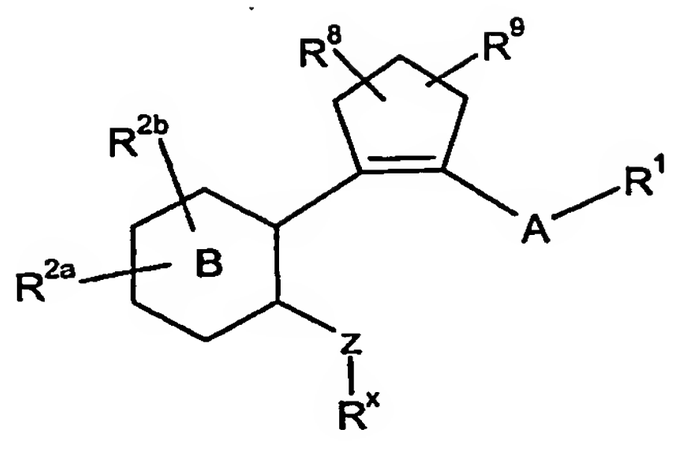
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



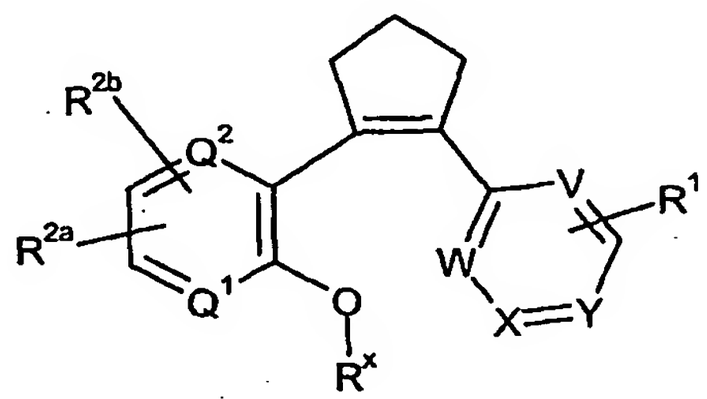
(I)

wherein:
A represents an optionally substituted aryl, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered heterocyclyl ring, or an optionally substituted bicyclic heterocyclyl group;
B represents a phenyl or pyridyl ring;
Z represents O, S, SO, or SO_2;
R^1 represents CO_2H, CN, $CONR^5R^6$, CH_2CO_2H, optionally substituted SO_2alkyl, $SO_2NR^5R^6$, $NR^5CONR^5R^6$, COalkyl, 2H-tetrazol-5-yl-methyl, optionally substituted bicyclic heterocycle or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;
R^{2a} and R^{2b} each independently represents hydrogen, halo, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, CN, SO_2alkyl, SR^5, NO_2, optionally substituted aryl, $CONR^5R^6$ or optionally substituted heteroaryl;
R^x represents optionally substituted alkyl wherein 1 or 2 of the non-terminal carbon atoms are optionally substituted by a group independently selected from NR^4, O and SO_n, wherein n is 0, 1 or 2; optionally substituted alkenyl; or optionally substituted alkynyl: or R^x represents optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-heterocyclyl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-bicyclic heterocyclyl or optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-aryl;
R^4 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;
R^5 represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;
R^6 represents hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted SO_2aryl, optionally substituted SO_2alkyl, optionally substituted SO_2heteroaryl, CN, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^baryl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^bheteroaryl or COR^7;
R^7 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;
R^8 and R^9 each independently represents hydrogen, chloro, fluoro, CF_3, C_{1-3}alkoxy or C_{1-3}alkyl;
Q^a and Q^b are each independently selected from hydrogen and CH_3;
wherein when A is a 6-membered ring the R^1 substituent and cyclopentene ring are attached to carbon atoms 1,2-, 1,3- or 1,4- relative to each other, and when A is a five-

membered ring or bicyclic heterocyclyl group the R^1 substituent and cyclopentene ring are attached to substitutable carbon atoms 1,2- or 1,3- relative to each other;
and derivatives thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein B is pyridyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 which is a compound of formula (IA):



(IA)

wherein:
W, X, and Y each represent CR^{12} or N;
V represents CR^1, CR^{12} or N;
wherein at least two of W, X, Y and V is CR^{12}, and R^{12} is independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, CF_3, CH_3, NH_2, NHC_{1-6}alkyl, $NHCOC_{1-6}$alkyl, and SCH_3;
Q^1 and Q^2 each represents CH, or one of Q^1 and Q^2 is N and the other is CH;
R^1 is CO_2H, $CONR^5R^6$, CH_2CO_2H, SO_2C_{1-6}alkyl, $SO_2NR^5R^6$, $NR^5CONR^5R^6$, tetrazolyl or $COSO_2NR^5R^6$;
R^{2a} and R^{2b} are selected from hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, and optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkoxy;
R^x represents optionally substituted C_{3-8}alkyl, optionally substituted C_{3-8}alkenyl, and optionally substituted CH_2phenyl;
R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl;
R^6 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or SO_2phenyl;
R^{12} is selected from hydrogen, halogen, NR^5R^6, NR^5COC_{1-6}alkyl, $NR^5SO_2C_{1-6}$alkyl, OR^5, SR^5, and optionally substituted C_{1-6}alkyl;
or derivatives thereof.

4. A compound according to claim 3 wherein one of Q^1 and Q^2 is N and the other is CH.

5. A compound according to claim 1 selected from the compounds of Examples 1 to 417 and derivatives thereof.

6. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 selected from the compounds of of Examples 145-148, 213-241, 342-368, and 388-417 and derivatives thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof together with a pharmaceutical carrier and/or excipient.

8. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for use as an active therapeutic substance.

9. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for use in the treatment of a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE_2 at EP_1 receptors.

10. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE_2 at EP_1 receptors which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

11. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a pain, inflammatory, immunological, bone, neurodegenerative or renal disorder, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

12. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

13. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE_2 at EP_1 receptors.

14. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition such as a pain, inflammatory, immunological, bone, neurodegenerative or renal disorder.

15. Use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a condition such as inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain.